

SENATE BILL 679

By Henry

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 13, relative to charter schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-13-122, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the following language:

(a) A public charter school agreement shall be revoked or denied renewal by the final chartering authority if the school receives identification as a priority school, as defined by the state's accountability system. Such revocation shall take effect immediately following the completion of the school year in which the school was identified as a priority school.

(b) Notwithstanding any language to the contrary, charter school authorizers may renew a charter under this subsection (b) for a maximum period of one (1) additional school year, if a local school board determines by a (2/3) two-thirds majority vote that extraordinary circumstances merit extension of the charter. A public charter school agreement may be revoked or denied renewal by the final chartering authority if the chartering authority determines that the school did any of the following:

(1) Committed a material violation of any of the conditions, standards, or procedures set forth in the charter;

(2) Failed to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management; or

(3) Performed any of the acts that are conditions for nonapproval of the charter school under § 49-13-108(c)

(c) If the chartering authority revokes or does not renew a charter agreement, the chartering authority shall state its reasons for the revocation or nonrenewal.

(d) A decision not to renew or to revoke a charter agreement may be appealed to the state board of education within ten (10) days of the decision, except for revocations or failures to renew based on the violations specified in subdivision (a). State board appeals shall be handled on the same basis as provided in § 49-13-108. This section shall apply only to decisions not to renew or to revoke a charter agreement where the LEA is the chartering authority.

(e) Except in the case of fraud, misappropriation of funds, flagrant disregard of the charter agreement or the provisions of this chapter or similar misconduct, or failure to remain out of priority status, a decision to revoke a charter shall become effective at the close of the academic year.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.